Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02697 202117Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00 /068 W
----------064733 202302Z /75
R 201706Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0306
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2697

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, JM
SUBJECT: RUMORS RE NEW EDUCATION MINISTER

1. OVER LUNCH ON MARCH 17, LABOR MINISTER ISAACS TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE IS NOT CERTAIN AS TO CHOICE PRIME MINISTER MANLEY WILL MAKE IN REPLACING ERIC BELL AS EDUCATION MINISTER. HE SAID ARNOLD BERTRAM'S NAME HAS BEEN MENTIONED BUT HE (ISAACS) THOUGHT THAT IF BERTRAM WERE TO GET THE POST, IT WOULD ALREADY HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED. THE LABOR MINISTER SAID THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION TO SELECTION OF BERTRAM, AND THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER SEYMOUR MULLINGS MAY BE THE FINAL CHOICE.

2. COMMENT: MULLINGS HAS NOT BEEN MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO HAVE A READING ON HIS PERFORMANCE AS A MINISTER. HOWEVER, HE DID DISPLAY CONSIDERABLE COURAGE IN COMPELLING ONE OF THE PARISH COUNCILS CONTROLLED BY THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) TO DESIST FROM EFFORTS TO OBSTRUCT JUSTICE
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DURING THE TRIAL FOR FRAUD OF TWO PNP COUNCILLORS. MULLINGS SERVED AS PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES DURING THE FIRST YEAR THAT SENATOR DUDLEY THOMPSON WAS MINING MINISTER AND GAINED A REPUTATION FOR INJECTING A NOTE OF REASON AND SANITY INTO THAT MINISTRY'S PROCEEDINGS. WE ARE TOLD THAT MULLINGS IS A SOUND, HARDWORKING IF NOT OVERLY IMAGINATIVE MAN.

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HE IS VERY MUCH ON THE SIDE OF THE MODERATES.
IRVING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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